

Message Text

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46

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 MC-02 AID-05 IGA-02 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /080 W

----- 092733

R 232218Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2929

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY LAPAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 4629

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, VE

SUBJECT: AYACUCHO ARMS LIMITATION TALKS

REF: STATE 89865

1. IN COURSE OF APRIL 23 DISCUSSION ON OTHER SUBJECTS, FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS SAID THAT AYACUCHO ARMS LIMITATION TALKS WERE PROCEEDING "POSITIVELY AND SERIOUSLY." THEY ADMITTED THAT THE SUBCOMMITTEES HAD ENCOUNTERED VARIOUS TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES, SOME RELATED TO THE WIDE DIFFERENCES IN SIZE AND STRUCTURE BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PARTICIPANTS. BUT THEY SAW SUCH DIFFICULTIES AS AN ENCOURAGING INDICATION THAT THE TALKS ARE GETTING DOWN TO BRASS TACKS.

2. THESE OFFICIALS SAID THAT THE GOV STRONGLY WANTS THE NEGOTIATIONS TO SUCCEED, IN ORDER TO DEVOTE MORE RESOURCES
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TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AVOID A LATIN AMERICAN ARMS RACE,

ENHANCE THE PROCESS OF LATIN AMERICAN INTEGRATION, AND TO FACILITATE THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES AMONG LATIN COUNTRIES. THE GOV WAS USING ITS INFLUENCE, THEY REMARKED, TO HELP OVERCOME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PERUVIANS AND CHILEANS.

3. THEY EXPECTED THE NEXT MEETING TO BE A PLENARY SESSION TO TAKE PLACE SOON IN BOLIVIA, BUT SAID THAT THE EXACT DATE HAD YET TO BE DETERMINED. THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATION WOULD CONSIST PRINCIPALLY OF MILITARY OFFICERS, SINCE THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAD BEEN DOING THE BULK OF THE SUBSTANTIVE WORK FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS. THE HEAD OF THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATION TO THE LAPAZ SESSION MIGHT BE THE LOCALLY ACCREDITED VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE THE EARNESTNESS OF THESE OFFICIALS WITH RESPECT TO THE GOV'S STRONG INTEREST IN THE ARMS LIMITATION NEGOTIATIONS, THE GOV DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE GIVING HIGH PRIORITY TO THEM. THE TALKS HAVE STIRRED LITTLE OR NOT INTEREST HERE AND THE GOV IS DEVOTING LIMITED AND RELATIVELY LOW-LEVEL MANPOWER TO THE NEGOTIATIONS.
SHLAUDEMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CARACA04629
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760156-0983
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760431/aaaaaznt.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 89865
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <08 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AYACUCHO ARMS LIMITATION TALKS
TAGS: PARM, VE, XM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006